Sue Richardson: Fanfare
Splash Point Records SPR010CD

Splash Point Records have lived up to their name and certainly produced a bracing and refreshing CD featuring the astonishingly multi-talented Sue Richardson. Sue has written and arranged all the songs here, sings delightfully on most of them, the small remainder being instrumentals, and plays trumpet and flugelhorn. There is a wide variety of ballads, uptempo numbers, an excursion into Latin jazz and a concluding medley where you will have to be on your toes to spot all the tunes referenced!

I was fortunate to attend a concert recently where Sue and her excellent musicians performed most of these numbers. She is a big Chet Baker fan and his influence in both her playing and singing is obvious, but don't take that to mean she is a copyist. When there is so much abysmal dross being churned out by the mass media this CD is a gem to be cherished. Excellent small group jazz that ought to find a wider public beyond the jazz clubs if there is any justice. GERRY STONESTREET